

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 472

By Ketron

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Murfreesboro Fire and Rescue Department Special Ops personnel for their relief efforts during recent flooding in South Carolina.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans continue this time-honored tradition of public service as firefighters, facing the rigors of corporeal imperilment in protecting those whom they so selflessly serve; and

WHEREAS, thirteen firefighters with the Murfreesboro Fire and Rescue Department's Special Ops unit rendered exemplary service in South Carolina during the catastrophic flooding that overwhelmed the state in October 2015; and

WHEREAS, these firefighters conducted welfare checks in neighborhoods where flood waters had destroyed utility service and other basic necessities of life; and

WHEREAS, the first five firefighters deployed on this humanitarian relief mission by Chief Mark Foulks were: Captain Clay Walls, Captain Gary Hutchinson, Driver Jeremy McCullough, Firefighter Mark Brewer, and Firefighter Jeremy Spivey; and

WHEREAS, the second crew of eight Special Ops personnel deployed to South Carolina included: Driver Chris Ayers, Driver Josh Oliver, Driver Chase Martin, Driver Doug English, Firefighter Mitchell Whittenburg, Firefighter Jacob Follis, Firefighter Steve Ellison, and Firefighter Matt Welcome; and

WHEREAS, outstanding in the line of duty, these thirteen brave firefighters are citizens of whom the Volunteer State is most proud, and they should be recognized for their professionalism and compassion in the face of danger; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Captain Clay Walls, Captain Gary Hutchinson, Driver Jeremy McCullough, Firefighter Mark Brewer, Firefighter Jeremy Spivey, Driver Chris Ayers, Driver Josh Oliver, Driver Chase Martin, Driver Doug English, Firefighter Mitchell Whittenburg, Firefighter Jacob Follis, Firefighter Steve Ellison, and Firefighter Matt Welcome of Murfreesboro Fire and Rescue Department Special Ops for their humanitarian relief mission during recent flooding in South Carolina and wish these outstanding public servants all the best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.